

# Zero Zero

SUMMER 1998  
NO. 24  
\$3.95-\$5.50 CAN.



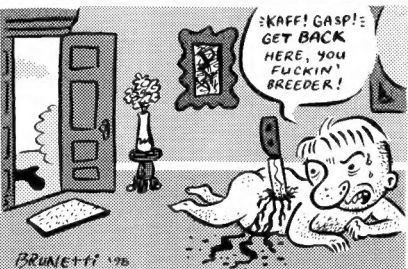
FANTAGRAPHICS BOOKS



# America's Sweethearts SMELLY & FISTY



10 Piles  
o'fun



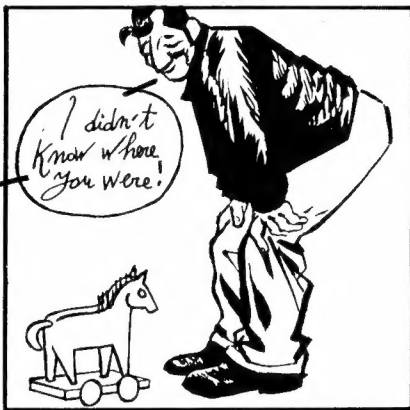
# WALKING WITH MELANIE KLEIN

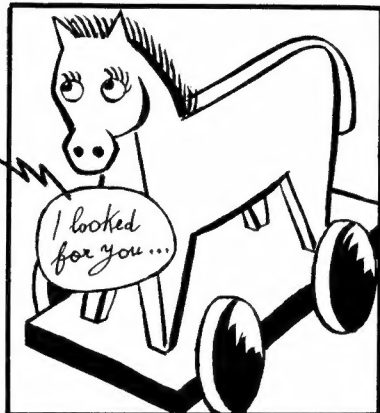
SUSAN CATHERINE

OSCAR ZARATE



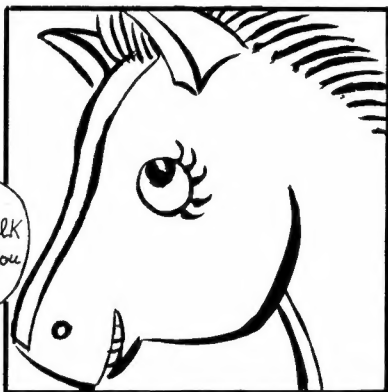
AFTER THIS  
COMMERCIAL WE'LL  
BE BACK WITH THE  
VERY LATEST  
RACING RESULTS.





We can go for a walk then, if you want...

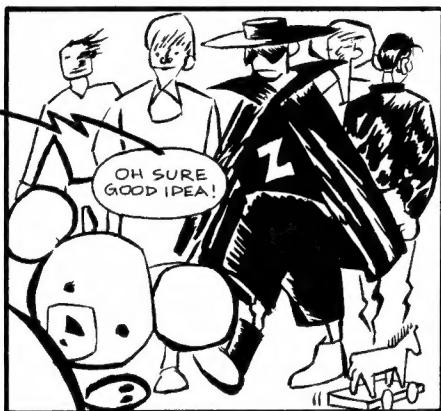
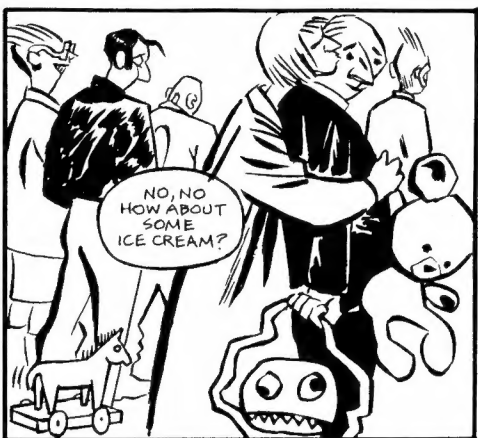
Yeah... OK!















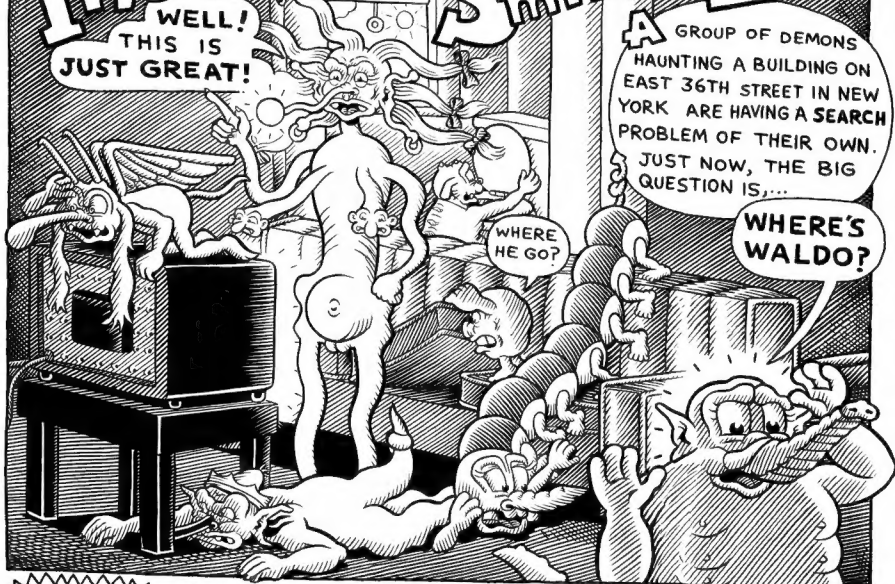
# The Search For Smilin' Ed!

WELL!  
THIS IS  
JUST GREAT!

A GROUP OF DEMONS  
HAUNTING A BUILDING ON  
EAST 36TH STREET IN NEW  
YORK ARE HAVING A SEARCH  
PROBLEM OF THEIR OWN.  
JUST NOW, THE BIG  
QUESTION IS...

WHERE  
HE GO?

WHERE'S  
WALDO?

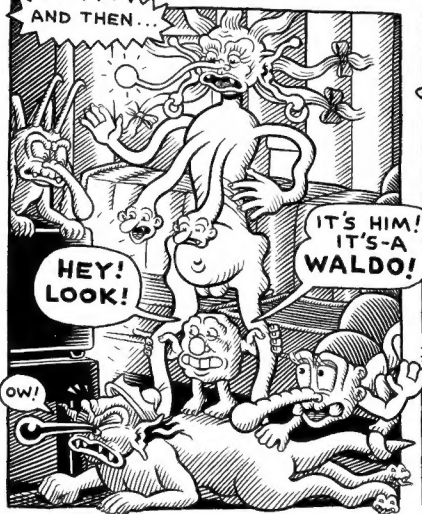


AND THEN...

IT'S HIM!  
IT'S-A  
WALDO!

HEY!  
LOOK!

OW!

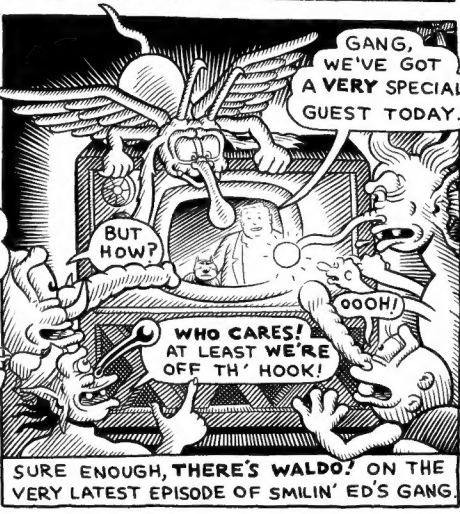


GANG,  
WE'VE GOT  
A VERY SPECIAL  
GUEST TODAY.


BUT  
HOW?

WHO CARES!  
AT LEAST WE'RE  
OFF TH' HOOK!


OOOH!



SURE ENOUGH, THERE'S WALDO! ON THE  
VERY LATEST EPISODE OF SMILIN' ED'S GANG.



SO, WALDO, HOW  
IS IT THAT  
YOU HAPPENED TO  
VISIT US DOWN  
HERE?




WELL, ED, ACTUALLY  
IT WAS KIND OF AN  
ACCIDENT.

Y'SEE,




I WAS LOOKING DOWN  
THIS TUNNEL BEHIND  
A SECRET DOOR IN  
THIS MEDICINE  
CABINET  
IN A  
BUILDING  
OVER ON  
EAST 36TH  
STREET.



IT'S TRUE!  
**LOOK!** IT'S  
STILL PARTIALLY  
OPEN!

**SO!**

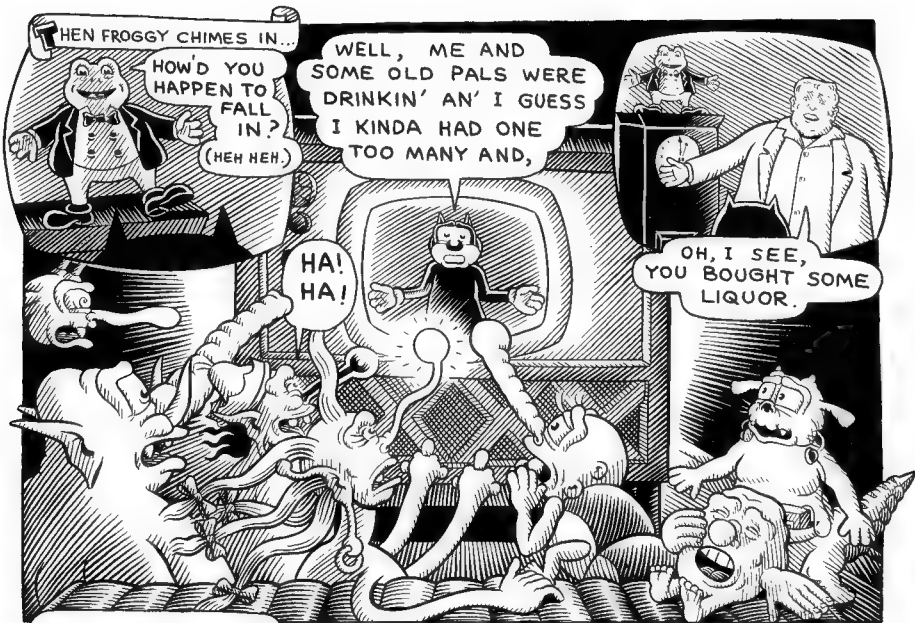
**WOW!**



AND I FELL DOWN THIS  
LONG, LONG, TUNNEL!

...AND CAME OUT RIGHT OVER HERE.

I SEE.



WHEN FROGGY CHIMES IN...

HOW'D YOU  
HAPPEN TO  
FALL  
IN?  
(HEH HEH.)

WELL, ME AND  
SOME OLD PALS WERE  
DRINKIN' AN' I GUESS  
I KINDA HAD ONE  
TOO MANY AND,

OH, I SEE,  
YOU BOUGHT SOME  
LIQUOR.

HA!  
HA!

WELL ACTUALLY, MY  
FRIENDS LET ME  
HAVE IT.

WHAT'S THAT?

I SAID, THEY  
LET ME  
HAVE IT.

HUH?

THEY LET ME HAVE IT!

EH?

LET ME HAVE IT!!

OKAY, PAL,

YOU  
ASKED  
FOR IT!

SCORE ONE FOR FROGGY!

**BINGO!**

HAW!  
HAW!  
HAW!

HA! HA!  
HA!

HA!

HA!

HA!

HA!

HA! HA!

HA!

HA!

HA!

HA!

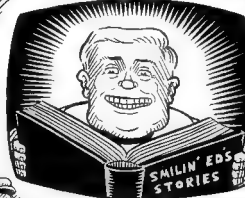
HA!

HA!

HA!

HA!

WHEN THE LAUGHTER  
SUBSIDES, THE SHOW'S  
STORYTIME SEGMENT  
BEGINS! AND ED CONTINUES  
THE THRILLING SAGA  
OF HOW HE AND FROGGY  
GOT THEIR START.



AND WHAT AN  
EXCITING STORY  
IT HAS BEEN!  
LIKE THAT CLOSE  
CALL AT SEA IN 1954  
WITH A TIME BOMB!  
AND A BOAT LOAD OF  
KIDNAPPED KIDS!



ED'S FAKED DEATH,

AND HIS ESCAPE  
TO AN UNDERGROUND  
SANCTUARY, DEEP  
WITHIN THE BOWELS  
OF THE EARTH.

WHERE  
DOC LEDICKER  
AND HIS HOSTS,  
THE GREY ONES,  
OFFER HIM A CHANCE  
TO CONTINUE  
HIS POPULAR  
T.V. SHOW.

BUT ED'S DEMONIC SIDEKICK, FROGGY, WAS STILL AT LARGE,  
WHICH ED CONSIDERED A MAJOR FLAW IN THE PROPOSED PLAN.

I'M SURE YOU ALL RECALL WHAT I TOLD DOC.  
FROGGY MAY BE A HOMICIDAL MANIAC,  
BUT HE'S STILL THE LIFE OF THE SHOW.

YEAH, RIGHT!

SO I DID MY BEST TO TELL DOC ALL I KNEW  
ABOUT FROGGY, AND HOW HE GOT INTO MY LIFE  
IN THE FIRST PLACE.





I TOLD HIM ALL ABOUT  
THAT STRANGE PUPPET SHOW  
THAT I SAW AS A KID  
AND EVENTUALLY  
RAN OFF WITH.

AND HIS MYSTERIOUS STAR  
ATTRACTION, A PUPPET THAT  
SEEMED TO MOVE WITHOUT STRINGS.

AND  
OF MY DISCOVERY,  
WITH THE PUPPTEER'S  
DEAD BODY; ITS  
HEAD A SHELL,  
EMPTY OF EYE  
AND BRAIN!

...MY  
OWN  
DERANGED STATE  
UNTIL FATTENED  
BY A STRANGE  
VOO DOO MAN  
WAY OUT IN THE  
GEORGIA PINES.

AND HIS  
STRANGE  
DIAGNOSIS!

DEY'S A DEMON INSIDE O' HIM!  
WE GOTTS TO FATTEN HIM UP, TO KEEP IT DOWN!



WELL IT SOUNDED LIKE  
DEMONIC POSSESSION  
TO DOC TOO;...

SPECIALLY AFTER  
I TOLD HIM OF THE  
MYSTERIOUS AWAKENING  
THING WITHIN ME, THAT  
HAD PLAGUED AND HAUNTED  
MY EARLY YOUTH.

ALICE, I WONDER  
IF YOU WOULD  
ALLOW ME TO...

PISS ALL  
OVER YOU!

HAW! HAW!  
HAW!

...AND HOW MY  
STRANGE, POSSESSED  
AND INCREASINGLY  
SPLIT PERSONALITY  
HAD QUIRKILY LED ME  
TO A SUCCESSFUL  
RADIO CAREER!

KIDS, ALWAYS  
REMEMBER TO...

EAT WORMS!  
EVERY DAY!

HAW!  
HAW!  
HAW!

FROGGY!

STRANGER STILL,  
WAS WHAT HAPPENED WHEN  
I MADE THE TRANSITION  
TO TELEVISION!

I AWOKE ONE MORNING  
TO DISCOVER THAT A TOY  
DOLL HAD MYSTERIOUSLY  
METAMORPHOSED INTO THE  
LIVING EMBODIMENT  
OF **FROGGY!**

HIYA ED!  
HIYA!  
HIYA!

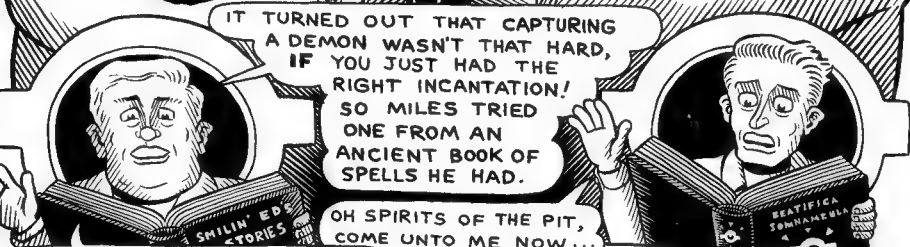
WELL, THE GREY ONES HAD BEEN FOLLOWING  
THE TELEVISION CAREER OF A YOUNG PSYCHIC NAMED  
MILES MICROFT, WHO HAD A SHOW ORIGINATING IN LOS ANGELES.



YOUNG MICROFT BALKED AT TAKING A CASE INVOLVING DEMONS, BUT ULTIMATELY A DEAL WAS MADE WITH THE LAD'S FATHER TO CONDUCT AN EXPERIMENTAL SEANCE.

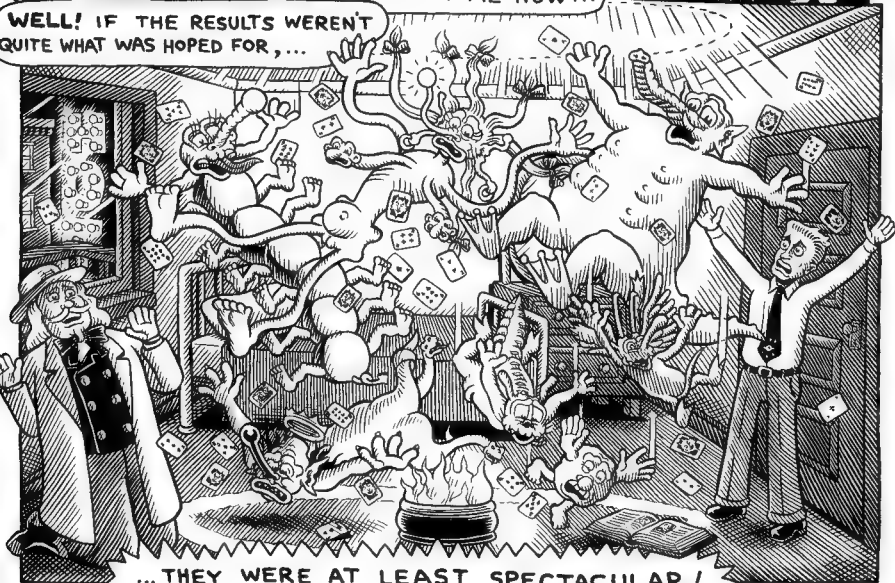


IT TURNED OUT THAT CAPTURING A DEMON WASN'T THAT HARD, IF YOU JUST HAD THE RIGHT INCANTATION! SO MILES TRIED ONE FROM AN ANCIENT BOOK OF SPELLS HE HAD.



OH SPIRITS OF THE PIT, COME UNTO ME NOW...

WELL! IF THE RESULTS WEREN'T QUITE WHAT WAS HOPED FOR, ...



I TOLD YOU INCANTATION POINT WAS A LOUSY PLACE TO PLAY CARDS!

FUCK YOU!

Y'SEE, GANG, INCANTATION POINT IS HELL'S NUMBER ONE PICK UP SPOT.

ANY DEMON LOOKING TO ESCAPE CAN GENERALLY HITCH A RIDE OUT ON THE STRENGTH OF ONE INCANTATION OR ANOTHER.

YOU SEE, DAH-LING, INCANTATION POINT IS LIKE CRUISING FOR A STREET CAR! IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN.

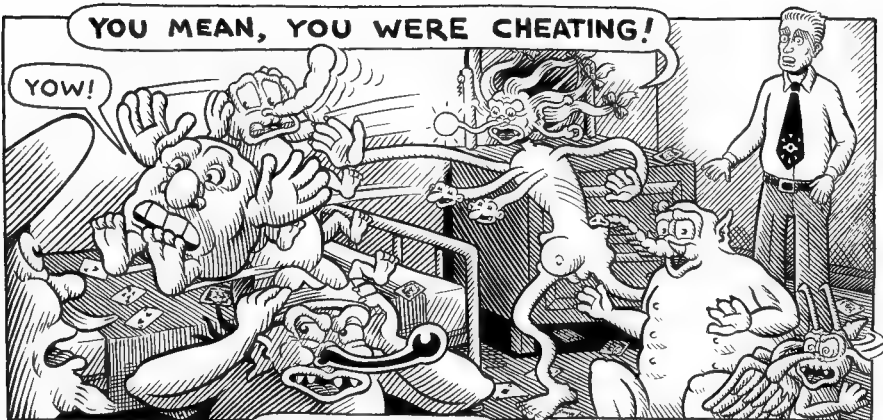
SAME OLD WHOREY BITCH!

HEY YOU!

THAT LOUSY SPELL OF YOURS BROKE UP OUR CARD GAME AND I WAS WINNING!

YOU MEAN, YOU WERE CHEATING!

YOW!



OH! SO SORRY!



HEY!  
WHERE  
ARE WE  
ANYWAY?

WHY  
YOU'RE IN A  
HOLLYWOOD  
HOTEL.



OOOOH! HOLLYWOOD! I ALWAYS WANTED TO COME HERE!



WELL, YOU'RE ALL GOING BACK TO HELL, RIGHT NOW!



OH PLEEZE!  
NOT THAT!

YOU HAVE NO IDEA HOW MONOTONOUS  
HELL IS!

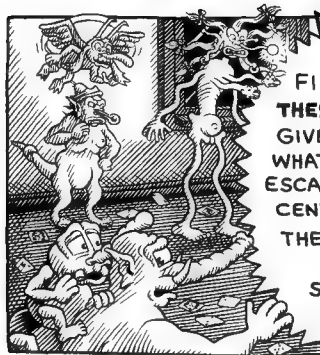


AND THE LOW COMPANY  
ONE IS FORCED TO KEEP!

NOW THIS GAVE MILES AN IDEA.



AND HE  
AND DOC  
WENT INTO  
A HUDDLE.



**MILES**  
FIGURED THAT IF  
**THESE** DEMONS COULD  
GIVE THEM AN IDEA OF  
WHAT **OTHER** DEMONS HAD  
ESCAPED HELL IN THE LAST  
CENTURY, THEN PERHAPS  
THEY COULD PIN POINT THE  
**RIGHT** DEMON AND  
SUMMON HIM WITH  
THE **CORRECT**  
INCANTATION!



**U**SING MILES'  
SPELL BOOK AS  
A CATALOG,  
THEY CAME UP  
WITH QUITE A  
LIST OF FUGITIVE  
DEMONS!  
INCLUDING,





**FROGGY!**

**A**ND AT THAT VERY MOMENT, IN THE SWIMMING POOL OF ST. AGNES CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, FROGGY WAS UP TO HIS OLD TRICKS!

**H** HE WAS ABOUT TO ELECTROCUTE DOZENS OF KIDS BY PUSHING A PLUGGED IN TELEVISION SET INTO THE POOL /

MILES' INCANTATION PREVENTED THE TRAGEDY WITH MERE SECONDS TO SPARE!

FROGANARDO!  
COME UNTO  
ME!

**YIKES!**  
**IT'S A FROGANARDO!**

YEAH!

**I**N THE  
ST. AGNES POOL,  
A RUBBER FROGGY  
DOLL BOUNCED  
INNOCENTLY  
OFF A CHILD'S  
HEAD.

**H**OWEVER,  
THE NEWLY  
MATERIALIZED  
FROGANARDO DID  
NOT TAKE KINDLY  
TO MILES'  
OCCULT  
MEDDLING.

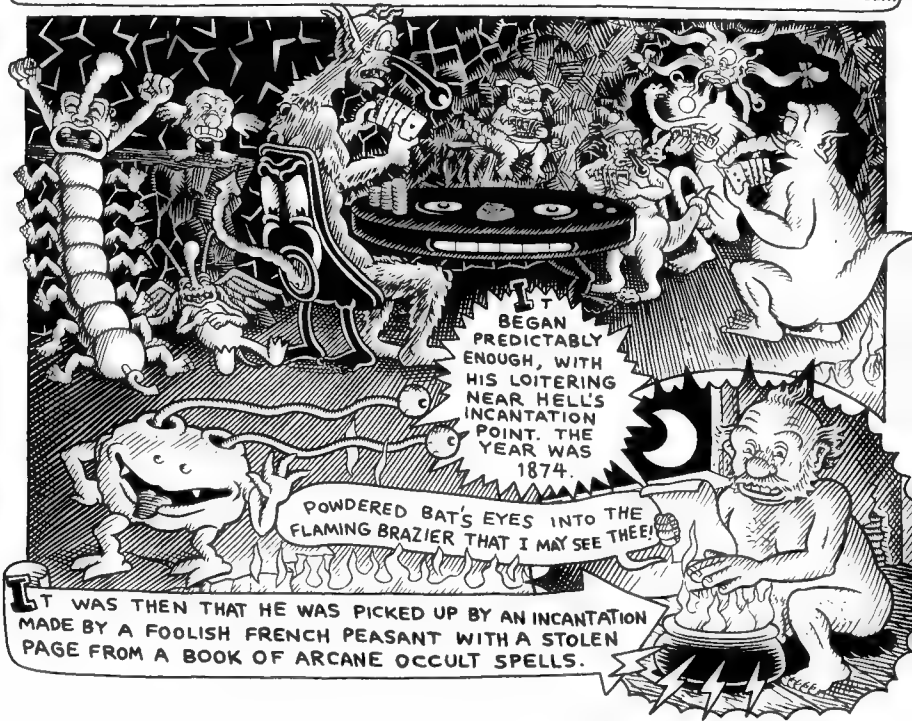
**YOU!  
DIE!**

**...BUT HE  
WAS SOON  
SUBDUED.**

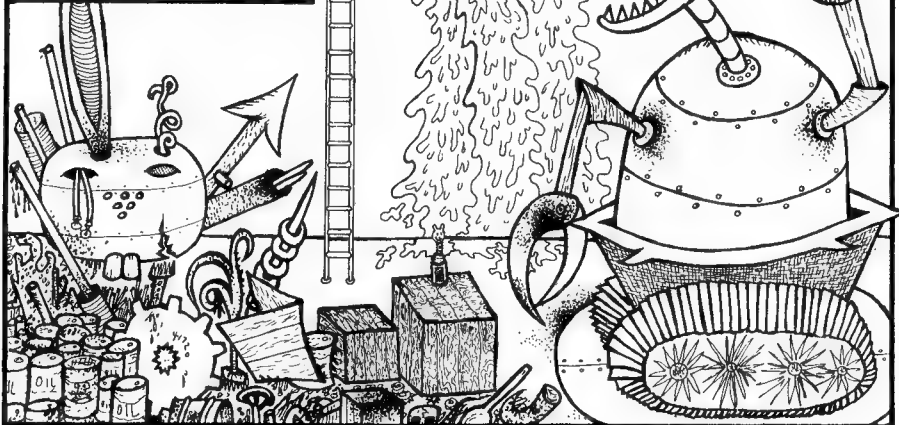
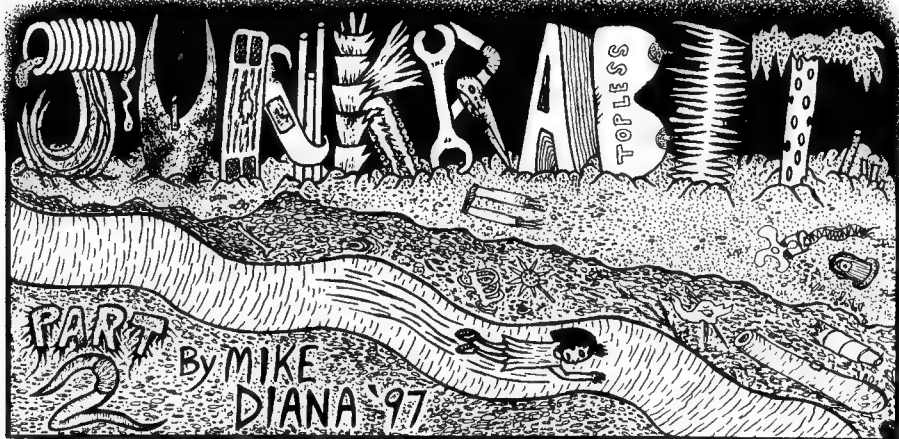


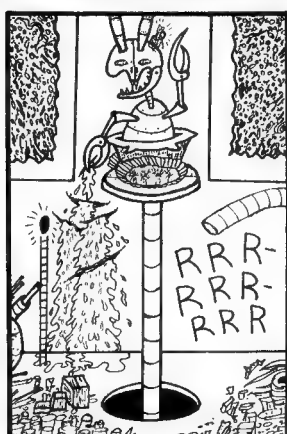


AND SO, GRUDGINGLY, FROGANARDO BEGAN THE STORY OF HIS OWN SORDID EARTHLY CAREER!

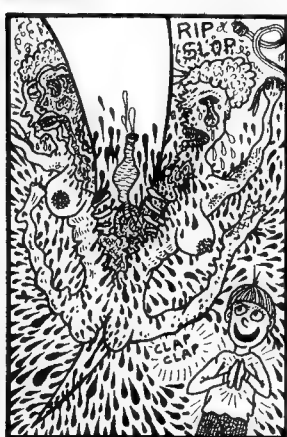
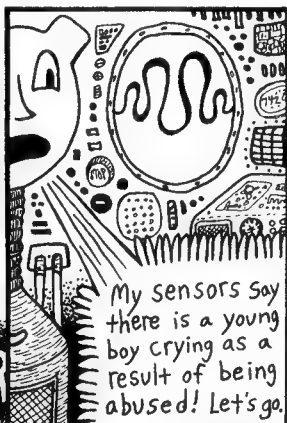
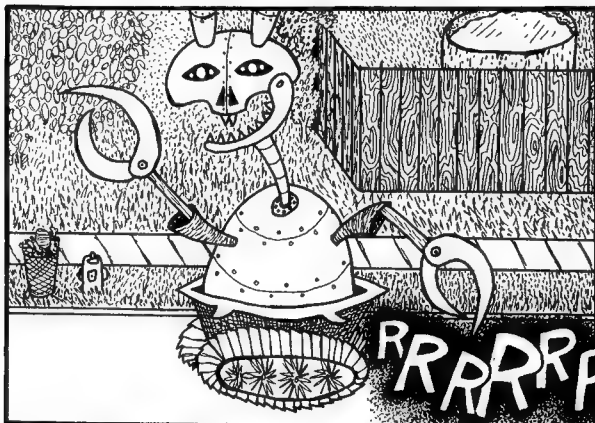
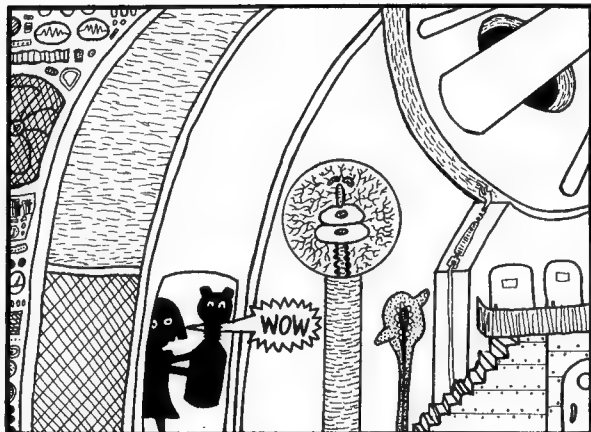


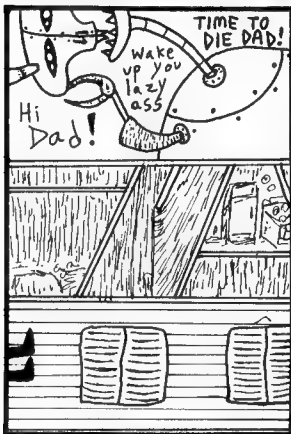
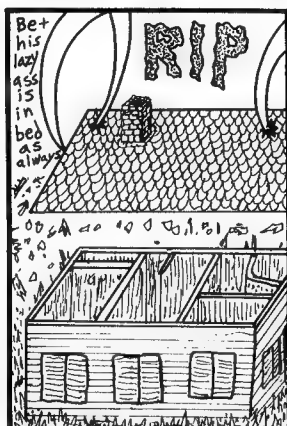


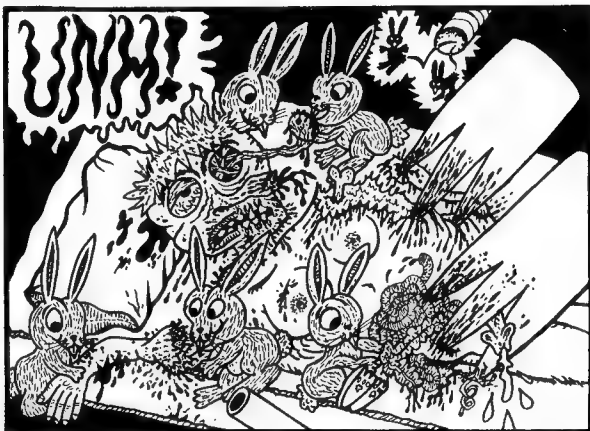
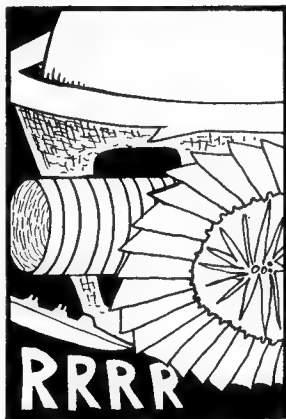
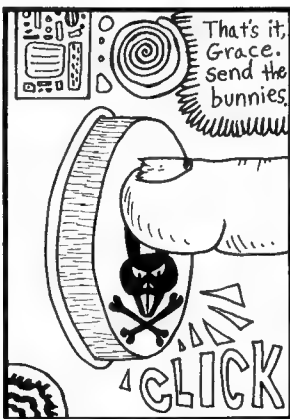
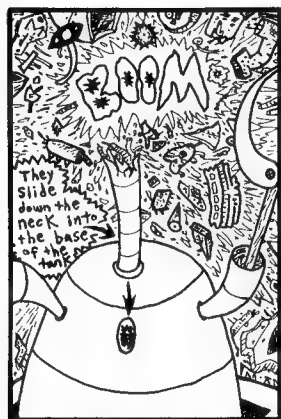
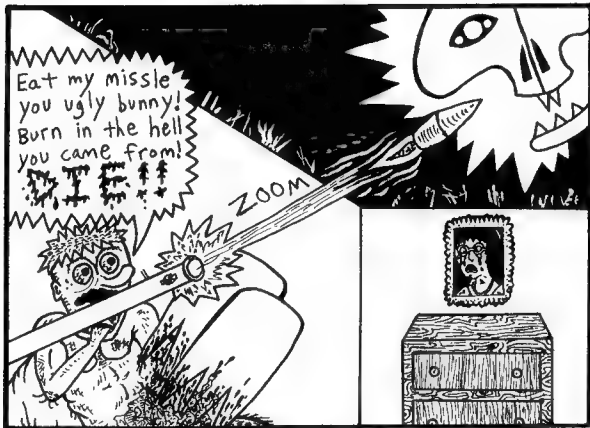




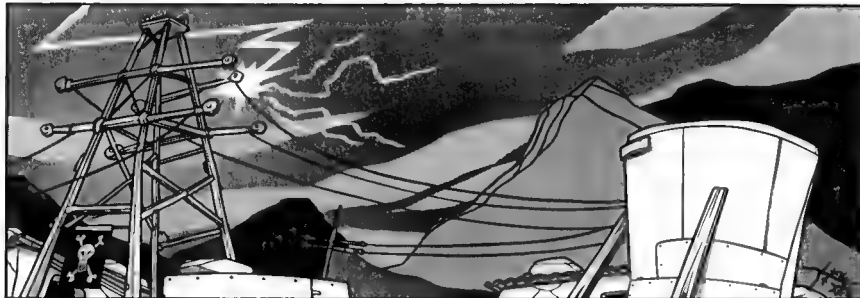


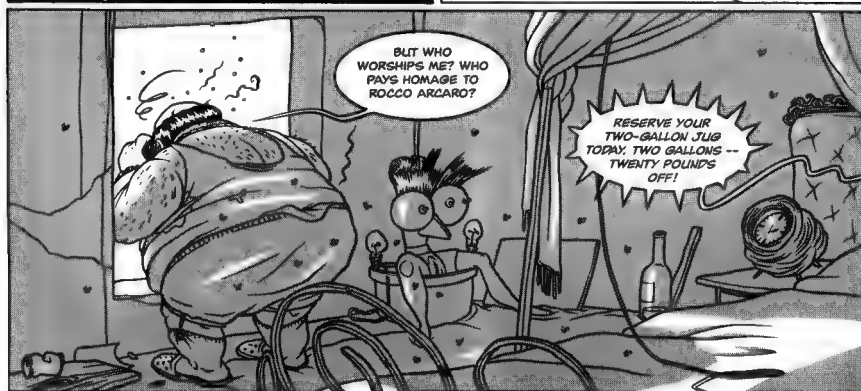
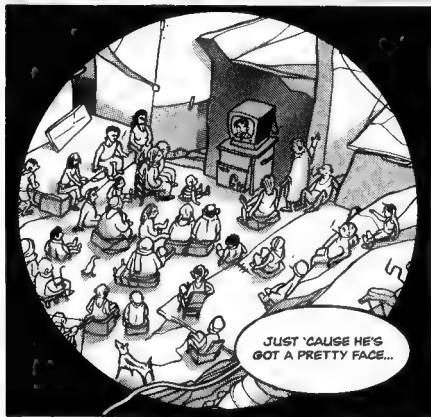




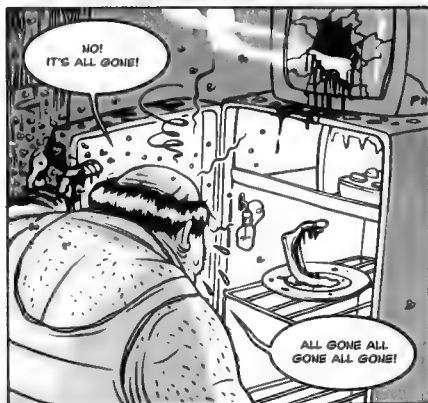
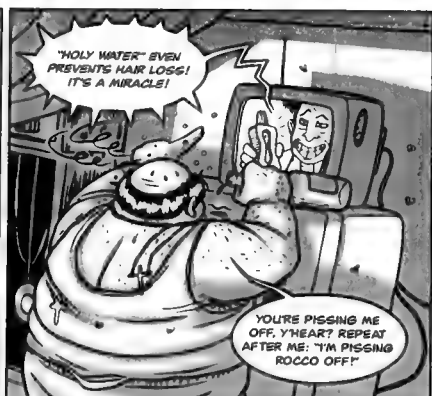




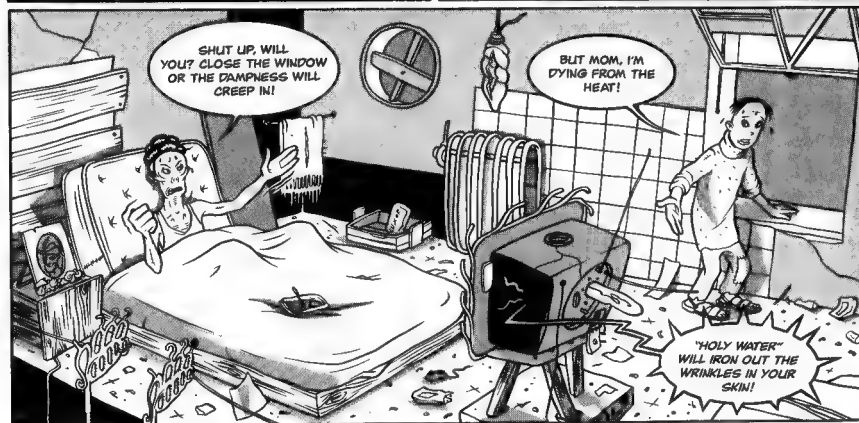
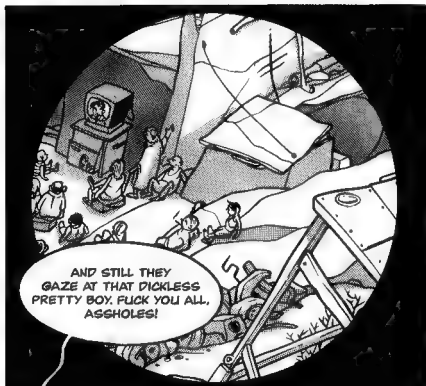


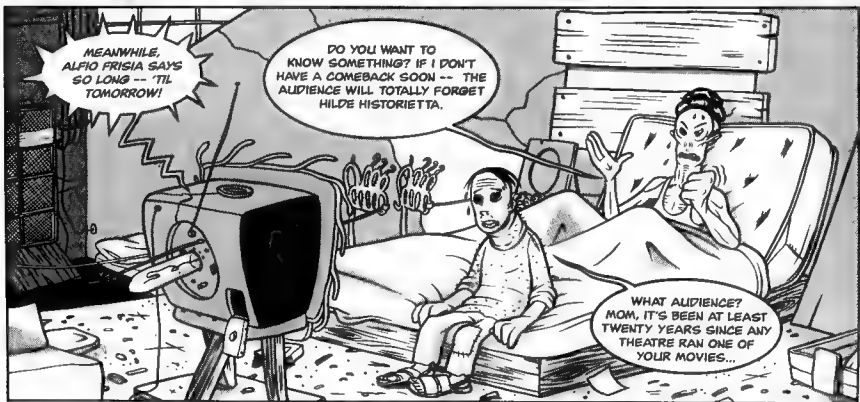
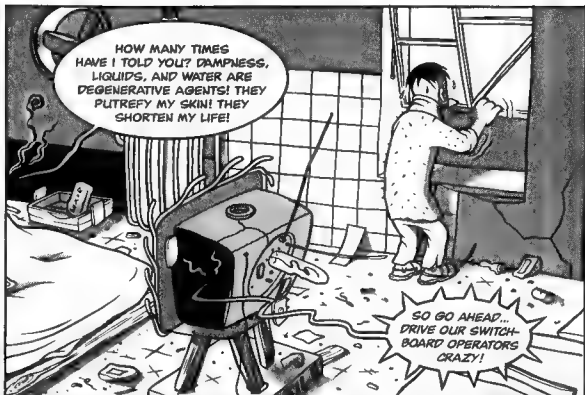


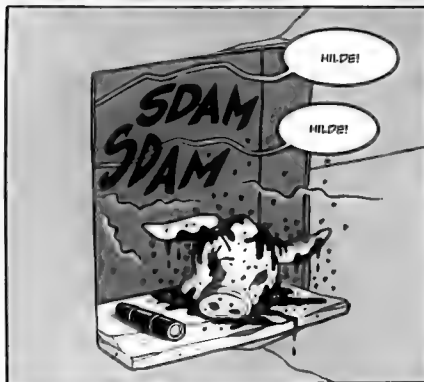


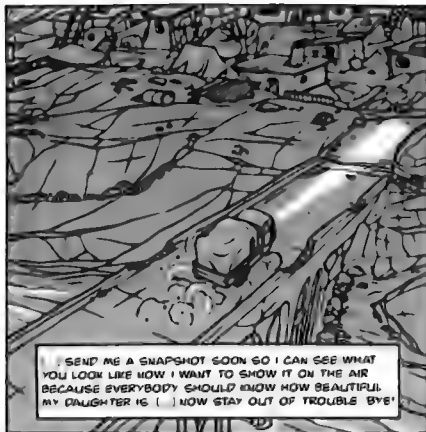












SEND ME A SNAPSHOT SOON SO I CAN SEE WHAT YOU LOOK LIKE NOW I WANT TO SHOW IT ON THE AIR BECAUSE EVERYBODY SHOULD KNOW HOW BEAUTIFUL MY DAUGHTER IS ( ) NOW STAY OUT OF TROUBLE 'BYE'



HEY MOM,  
I SEE HIM!



HE'S ON HIS  
WAY HOME JUST  
NOW.



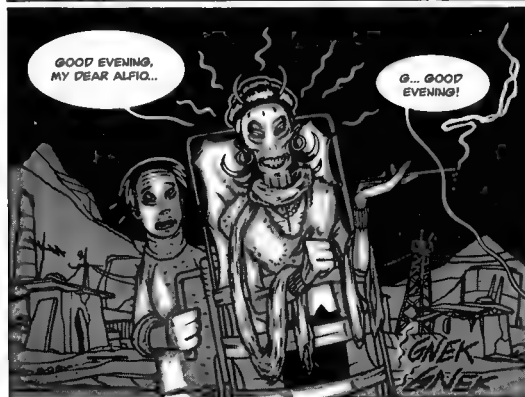
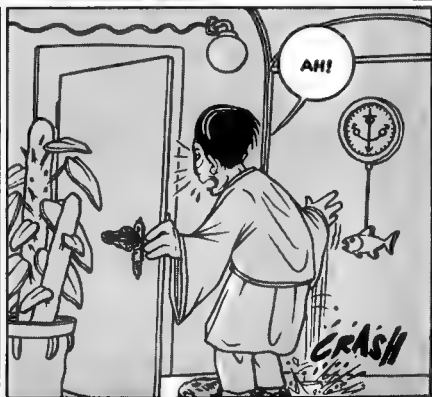
WHAT ARE  
THEY DOING? WHO  
ARE THEY SPYING  
ON?



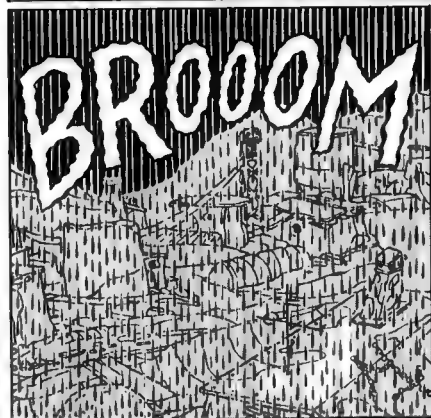
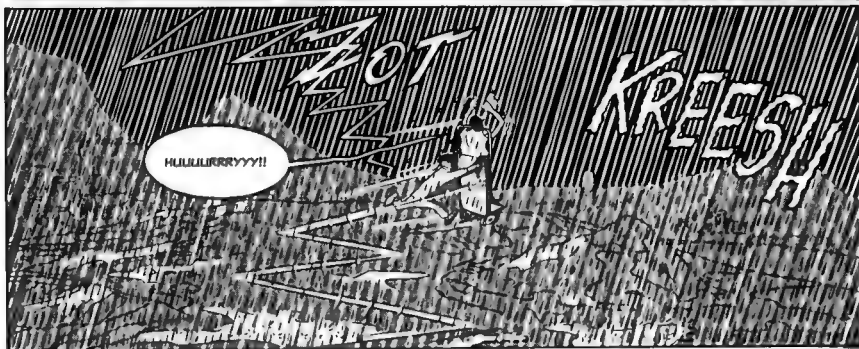
AH! THEY TURNED  
OFF THE LIGHT! BUT  
WHERE THE FUCK ARE  
THEY GOING?

WHAT'S  
GOING  
ON?











# THE zERO zERO BOOKSHELF

## as SEEN IN THIS ISSUE

Ivan Brunetti: **SCHIZO #1-3**: The most depressive and neurotic autobiographical cartoonist ever strikes again! First two issues are 48 pages each! \$3.95 (#1-2), \$3.50 (#3)



Kim Deitch: **ALL-WALDO COMICS AND A SHROUD FOR WALDO**: The cat came back in these two paperbacks (the first a collection of vintage underground stories, the second a collection of the '80s L.A. Reader serial). \$7.95

Kim Deitch: **BEYOND THE PALE**: 144 pages of weird and woolly comix from the birth of the underground through the end of *Wiz*. \$14.95

Kim Deitch: **WALDOWORLD #1-3**: The latest graphic novel from Deitch, starring his calculatin' cartoon cat. \$2.50 each

Mike Diana: **THE WORST OF BOILED ANGEL**: They threw his as in jail over this. The least you can do is buy it. Very offensive. \$16.95

Lewis Trondheim: **McCONEY VOLUME 1: "HARUM SCARUM"**: Full-color satirical action-adventure thriller from Europe's brightest new talent of the 1990s. Gorgeous European-style album, lalla galore...you won't regret it! \$10.95

Lewis Trondheim: **THE NIMROD #1**: French cartoonist does autobiography, and god dammit, they're good at that, too! Plus funny pantomime shorts in the style of ZZ's "Cosmonaut" strips. \$2.95

Mack White: **VILLA OF THE MYSTERIES #1-3**: Texas noir runs rampant in these two issues. Watch for the third one in August. \$3.95 each

## zERO zERO BACK ISSUES

**ZERO ZERO #1 (March/April 1995)**: Ted Stearn's "Fuzz and Pluck," "The Man With the Big Head" by David Holzman, "New Adventures of Jesus," Moriarty & Bukowski, Max Andersson, Glenn Head, Henriette Valium, Collier, Panter cover! \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #2 (May/June 1995)**: "The Chuckling Whatsis" by Richard Sala begins. Also, Mack White's "Homunculus," "Car-Boy" by Max Andersson, new "Trashman" story by Spain, David Mazzucchelli, Mats!?, and more. \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #3 (July 1995)**: ZZ debuts from Skip Williamson and Rick Altermatt, Andersson's "Lolita," plus Mark Newgarden, "Fuzz and Pluck," and a Valium cover. \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #4 (August 1995)**: "Meat Box" by Kaz and Georgarakis premieres, plus Andersson, Mark Beyer, a Stearn "dream" story, and Al Columbia's "I Was Killing When Killing Wasn't Cool." \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #5 (Sept./Oct. 1995)**: Joe Coleman cover! Chris Ware frontispiece! Justin Green back cover! Plus Kim Deitch, Car-Boy, "Meat Box," "Homunculus." \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #6 (Nov./Dec. 1995)**: Kim Deitch premieres "The Strange Secret of Molly O'Dare"! "Fuzz and Pluck," Williamson, Penny Van Horn, and Rick Altermatt. \$3.95



**ZERO ZERO #7 (Jan./Feb. 1996)**: "Molly O'Dare" continues! 18-page "BestWorld" cover story by Bill Griffith! Plus Andersson, Gilbert Hernandez, Archer Prewitt. \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #8 (March/April 1996)**: Big anniversary issue: "Soft Boy" by Prewitt, Al Columbia, end of "Molly O'Dare," Henriette Valium, "Homunculus" and "Fuzz and Pluck," and a cover by Charles Burns. \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #9 (May/June 1996)**: Snappy Sammy Smoot returns! Plus Henderson and Blanquet, the first story by Susan Catherine/Oscar Zarate, Valium back cover. \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #10 (July 1996)**: Ultra-groovy Drew Friedman cover! 8 Valiums! Sam Max Andersson, Aleksandar Zograf, Jeff Johnson, more! \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #11 (August 1996)**: Dave Cooper's "Suckle" (runs from #11 to #16 and #18 to #20) premieres! Plus Stearn, Kaz, Mazzucchelli, Andersson, Tompkins. \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #12 (Sept./Oct. 1996)**: Max Andersson's 15-page "Death"! P. Revess and Joakim Pirinen ZZ debuts, plus Michael Dougan and a back cover by Dan Clowes. \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #13 (Nov./Dec. 1996)**: Extra-long "Fuzz and Pluck" chapter, plus Henderson, Williamson, "Homunculus," "Idiotland" by Doug Allen, and Jim Blanchard! \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #14 (Jan./Feb. 1997)**: Stephanie Blanquet cover, plus two, count 'em two, "Silent Stories"! Also, Mike Diana, Terry LaBan, and a Kim Deitch back cover. \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #15 (March 1997)**: Joe Sacco heads for Bosnia with 15-page "Christmas With Karadzic," first major story since Palestine! Plus Revess, Valium, Henderson, Columbia, and the serials. \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #16 (April/May 1997)**: Big ol' Brute of an anniversary issue, with a full-color "Jimmy Corrigan" story by Chris Ware, striking 2-color

stories by Al Columbia ("Blood Clot Boy") and Henriette Valium ("The Man in the Sewer"), a new chapter of "MeatBox," plus Joakim Pirinen, Penny van Horn, Skip Williamson, P. Revess, Aleksandar Zograf, Krystine Kryttre, and a cover by Kaz. \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #17 (June 1997)**: Michael Dougan's terrifying "Double Booked"! Penultimate "Chuckling Whatsis," new "Fuzz and Pluck" chapter, and more! \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #18 (July 1997)**: Especially lame Sam Henderson cover story! "Young Jeffrey



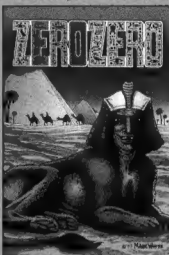
Dahmer" by Derf! Plus J.R. Williams, M.L. Teague, Archer Prewitt, and Walt Holcombe! \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #19 (August 1997)**: "Pop, 666" by Smercano and Ghermandi debuts! Plus the final "MeatBox," Andersson's "Johnny Gun," plus Jeff Johnson, Head, and a Blanquet back cover! \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #20 (Sept./Oct. 1997)**: Glenn Head cover and lead story! Conclusion to "Suckle"! "Amnesia," another 2-color Al Columbia story! Full-color M.L. Teague tale! Plus "Homunculus," "Pop, 666," and Lewis Trondheim! \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #21 (Nov./Dec. 1997)**: Cover-to-cover all-new Kim Deitch! 51 pages of "The Secret of Smilin' Ed"! You're fucking welcome! \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #22 (Jan./Feb. 1998)**: Mack White returns with a double-



length "Homunculus," plus a Sphinx-arific cover! Also the conclusion to "Fuzz and Pluck," and more "Pop, 666" and "Smilin' Ed," as well as a Lewis Trondheim back cover! \$3.95

**ZERO ZERO #23 (March/April 1998)**: Doug Allen's "Tired" is a rip-roaring dragging masterpiece! The rest of this issue is really disgusting, though, with the 12-page Henriette Valium "The Head Reserve," Mike Diana's "Junk Rabbit," a "Silent Story" by Blanquet, and Renée French's "Cornelia in the Pen" — plus Jason Little and Ethan Persoff! \$3.95

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